Targets Fixed for Cotton Export

†5630. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any targets were fixed for the export of cotton from country during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) if so, what were the said targets;

(c) whether cotton was exported as per targets;

(d) if not, the actual quantum of export made during each of the said years; and

(e) the reasons for which exports could not be made as per the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) Though no target is fixed for export of cotton, Government releases quota for export. The quota released and actual exports during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are as follows:—

YEAR (October-September)	QUOTA RELEASED (in lakh bales of 170 kg. each)	ACTUAL EXPORT (in lakh bales of 170 kg. each)
1997-88	8.2	3.4937
1998-99	5.00	1.01253
1999-2000 (upto 28.4.2000)	5.00	0.337

(e) The quantum of export, *inter alia*, depends upon the price and quality parameters. In recent years, cotton prices in international market have come down considerably and are at par or lower than the prices in domestic market.

France Blocking Indian Textiles Exports

5631. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that France has been preventing the EU from letting Indian textile exporters use the exceptional flexibilities mechanism to boost shipment to its fifteen member nations;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.